



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES  
HEALTH CARE FINANCING ADMINISTRATION

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Center for Health Plans and Providers  
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**Date:** January 4, 2001

**To:** All Medicare+Choice Organizations That Currently Contract With HCFA  
All Medicare+Choice Organizations That Terminated Their Contracts with HCFA or Reduced Their Service Area for 2001

**From:** Gary A. Bailey, Acting Director, Medicare Managed Care Group

**Re:** Instructions and Question and Answer Session for Medicare+Choice Organizations for the 2001 ACRP Season Under the Medicare, Medicaid, and SCHIP Benefits Improvement and Protection Act of 2000 (BIPA)

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**Instructions**

Attached are instructions for the 2001 ACRP season under the Medicare, Medicaid, and SCHIP Benefits Improvement and Protection Act of 2000 (BIPA) that was enacted on December 21, 2000. All M+COs that currently contract with HCFA or that wish to return to the Medicare+Choice Program or re-enter a previously reduced service area should review these instructions carefully and also consult the attached list of questions and answers for further guidance. This information will be posted at [www.hcfa.gov/medicare/cy2001.htm](http://www.hcfa.gov/medicare/cy2001.htm) this afternoon.

We have had extensive discussions with the three industry associations with regard to this legislation in order to provide clear and responsive guidance to you. We look forward to continuing these discussions as we implement this new legislation. We will continue to update the HCFA website with additional information as needed and encourage you to check the website described above frequently for new information.

**Question and Answer Session**

Medicare+Choice Organizations will have the opportunity to discuss the new ACRP instructions with HCFA staff on **Monday, January 8, 2001 from 2:30 p.m. until 3:30 p.m.(EST)**. The conference call dial-in number is **1-800-837-1935** and the conference ID number is **481004**. To participate in the call please E-mail the following information, not later than 3:00 p.m. (EST) Friday, January 5, to Erik Thorne at [Ethorne@hcfa.gov](mailto:Ethorne@hcfa.gov).

- Organization
- Participant(s) Name
- E-mail Address (need only 1 per organization)

We look forward to your organization's participation.

**Special Note:**

If you are unable to attend the conference, for your convenience we have arranged for an Encore Feature Service. This service gives you a recorded playback of the entire call. This feature is only available for up to 48 hours after the conference call. The toll-free # for the Encore feature is 1-800-642-1687. The operator will prompt you to key in the conference ID, which is 481004. You should then be able to hear the recorded conference call.